



First reading

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts'.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The Word of the Lord.



ARLES DOONANE PARISH NEWSLETTER

SERVING ARLES, BALLYLINAN, DOONANE, KILLEEN AND MAYO

3rd Sunday of Lent

8th March 2026

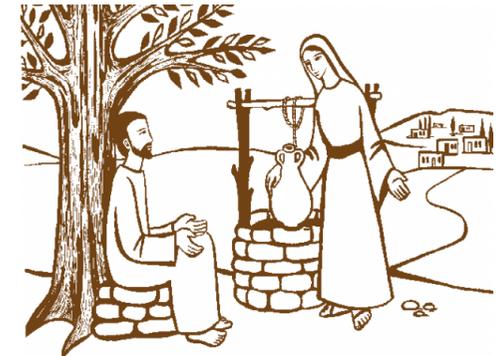
Reflection



A famous picture has the Samaritan woman looking into the well and seeing there her image – and image of Jesus. In the depths of the well of her life, is the presence of Jesus.

You need sometimes to go to the depths of the well...finding God in all things...where they affect us – love, pain, death, decision, joy, – we find God. God is near when we are near to ourselves... We thirst for meaning in life, for knowing we are totally loved, for community and companionship – this is the offering of God...

And you find the mercy of God in the well. As we go into depths of prayer and ourselves we are open to mercy. We may put all sorts of conditions on God's mercy and forgiveness – naming our sins, counting the numbers of them. God doesn't number sins but forgives them and covers them over with love. At the bottom of the well is the water of mercy. The face of a bighearted God with a smile and an inviting face...to spread to the world like the woman did. Of the mercy of God, Pope Francis says – "there is no sin or crime of any kind that can erase from the mind or heart of God even one of the children he has created".



Donal Neary SJ

Religious Services to attend

Morning Mass (Arles): 10am Tuesday - Friday

Recitation of the Rosary (Arles): 9.30am Tuesday - Friday

Confession: After 10am Arles Mass (First Friday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tues. 11am-1pm (Killeen), Wed. 10am-9pm (Doonane) & Fri. 7.30pm-8.30pm (Ballylinan)

In Memoriam

Anniversaries for 8 March 2026

Ballylinan (7pm):	Kitt Farrell (Months Mind)
	Liam Brennan (7th Anniversary)
	Tony Lacey (1st Anniversary)
	Joanna Doyle (Birthday Remembrance)
Doonane (8pm):	Mary O'Shea
Killeen (9am):	
Arles (10am):	Mary Kehoe (Months Mind)
	André Reynaud, Lyon, France
Mayo (11.30am):	Mary (Mollie) Behan Tolerton
	Mixie Brennan, Monavea

Anniversaries for 15 March 2026

Ballylinan (7pm):	Norah Byrne, Gracefield
Doonane (8pm):	Dinny Hayden, Rathangan
Margaret & Edmund Mulhall, Doonane Terrace	
	Thomas & Mary Casey, Wolfhill
	Catherine & John Watchorn, Carlow
	Catherine Dowling, Carlow
Killeen (9am):	Kathleen & Patrick Walsh
	James, Annie & Jack Dooley, Grange.
Arles (10am):	Michael Storey (Months Mind)
	& his niece Kathleen Gleeson.
Mayo (11.30am):	Peg & Tommy Moore, Ardough

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

First Confession

Tuesday 10th March:
11am Ardough NS



11.45am Mayo NS &
12.30pm Newtown NS

We keep all the children in our prayers as they take another step in preparation for the celebration of their First Holy Communion in May.

Vocation Discernment Weekend



Contemplative Dominican Monastic Vocation Discernment Weekends in the Monastery of St. Catherine of Siena, The Twenties, Drogheda, Co. Louth. A92 KR84, from the 20th – 22nd of March 2026 and the 17th – 19th April 2026. For single women between the ages of 18- 35 years old.

Please contact: Sr. Mairead O.P.

senavoc@gmail.com or Tel: 041 9838524

Safeguarding

DLP: Michele Hughes , mobile number 086-1710643 and email: dlp@kandlic.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



Arles Doonane Parish Office

(083) 8765 800

Opening Hours: Tuesday 10am - 1pm & Friday 10am - 1pm

Please contact the Office if you require an Anniversary Mass booking, a copy of a Baptismal Certificate or if you wish to book a Baptism or Wedding in the Parish.

✉ arlesdoonane@parish@gmail.com

Envelope Boxes and Trócaire boxes will be distributed throughout the parish over the next week or so.

Offering Envelopes



The envelope collection is the primary way of supporting our parish.

Many thanks to those who continue to offer their support in these difficult times.

A sincere word of thanks also to all our distributors for giving up their time to help distribute the boxes.



Killabban ICA present

Irish Night in Killeen Hall

Tues 10th March at 7.30pm

Raffle and Prizes

Admission €5



MDCE PROJECT CLG

Community Employment Scheme Vacancies available

Killeshin Soccer CES-2433016

Oisín Park CES-2433018

Office Admin CES-2433009

Anyone interested in a position the application is available on Jobsireland.ie or you can contact MDCE Project CLG directly on 056 4442711 or email us at mdceproject@gmail.com.



First Communion Preparation Programme Arles Hall Tuesday 10th March at 7.30pm

We welcome back, for their third night, the First Communion children of our six parish schools. We keep them all in our prayers at this time as they prepare for their First Holy Communion later in the year.



Lotto Results

3rd March 2026

Winning Numbers

2 12 22 26

Jackpot €8,100

Jackpot - No Winner

Lucky Dip €20 - Conor Kelly

Lucky Dip €20 - Emmett Walsh

Lucky Dip €20 - Veronica Wheatley

Lucky Dip €20 - Tara McSweeney

Next Weeks Jackpot €8,150



Bingo Knockbeg College

Thursday 19th of March starts at 7.30pm (doors open at 6.30pm). Entry Booklets cost €10 and are available from the Knockbeg office (05991 42127) or on the night. Prizes €20 for a line, €30 for two lines and €50 for a full house.

In aid of Knockbeg Parent's Association and New Pitch Development. All support is greatly appreciated.

